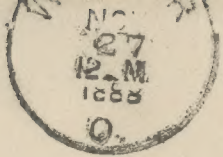

Mrs Mary R. Mateer

Mechanicsburg

(Care Wm's Ellenberger) Cumberland Co

Penna.

Wooster Nov. 26th 1888.

Dear Mother:

I must try to write you a short letter. Harrie tells me you reported yourself safe in Harrisburg. I felt relieved to know that you are there, and that you found Cousin Ellen there.

I scarcely know where to begin to bring up the news here since you left.

I have been sick and at home most of the time - the excitement and long strain of the wedding fuss &c. was too much. I had a fearful time of nervousness and depression, and weakness - was sick in a little over two weeks and very bad. Dr. Todd said I had gone away back to where he first found me and I would just have to begin over again. Then the weather has kept on much as it was, which was against me.

To help matters I tripped and fell headlong a week ago - skinning and bruising my knee severely, breaking a piece off of my

front tooth, and nell nigh caving in my breast bone. I am suffering from the effects still but not seriously. I must have been born under an unlucky star. Mary had a chill and sore throat last week. It was epidemic in the building. A card written on Saturday reports her about well. Janet Rupe well. Willie is going regularly to school is fairly well has some headache. Mrs Taylor is gone. Mrs Dr. Blacks sister in Chicago is dead. Dr and Mrs Black started to the funeral at noon to-day.

Dr Hills announced to his people today that he was going to preach as a candidate in a New York Church next Sabbath. From what he told the Dr. to-day, I think he will likely go. I am sorry for ourselves - but glad for him. Harrie and Elizabeth seem to be prospering. I have not been able to see much of them. I like Lizzie very much and think she will suit Harry - Chill Rupe is up to time in his work and his religious

duties. She believes in going to church & prayer meeting. They are doing nicely fixed and seem very happy.

Prof Mary has been sick two weeks yesterday, and Harrie has been attending him. It has been a picnic truly. In the first place Mrs Mary undertook to doctor him herself and at the same time give him anything and everything to eat. A pack of pills, quinine, and stuffing did not suit him in any good shape for the Dr. Then when Harrie put him on a spare diet he would not eat anything turned his face to the wall in the dumps. I think it would be hard to tell which is the biggest baby, the Professor or his wife. Mrs Pressley invited Dr. Scrolls, Dr. Blacks and ourselves to tea this evening, but she took sick Saturday and could not have us. Mrs Foust had a large tea party on last Friday evening. The new Rev. met all the hill folks and some down town. The supper was exceedingly nice. I did not help her mother. I suppose like me Mrs F. thought she must get this done while

Our Sabbath-afternoon class keeps up pleasantly and I do enjoy it. We had seven lessons on the first chap. of Mark. We should know it pretty well. But the two great subjects of the baptism of Christ and the temptation took much time. We spent most of one day on "The Kingdom of Heaven". We had the healing of the paralytic yesterday and Christ's encounter with the Scribes & Pharisees. The Bible is not large but there is a wonderful light in it. I have not been at Church since only once since you left. I guess I will not have any company Thanksgiving - I intended it, but dont feel able. I suppose Lizzie will have her mother. Wonder where you will be. I got for myself a plush mantel - at long last I guess I have finally got a map. I got me a cheap Ulster also. and Agnes a long cape that is very pretty. I ordered myself Saturday running after these things - and a pair of pants for Willie I think now I am about done the hard shopping for this season. I need a dress but cannot think of modernizing the making yet -

Tuesday Morning: A snow covered earth this morning - trees white too - a pretty winter scene - looks quite like Thanksgiving. We are to have Union Services in the U.P. Church. The new Baptist Minister is to preach. I wish we had our own services. Willie was down to see Lizzie yesterday and he tells me she does not expect her mother after all for Thanksgiving, and she don't know when she will come.

Horrie says just what I expected, that you are anxious now to get fixed up again before Calvin and Julia come. Don't you think we can take care of Calvin and Julia without you going to housekeeping for that express purpose unless you would do so at any rate? Moreover the last letter from Calvin to Rob. said he was going to finish his books first - which would take him till well on in the Summer - so he will not be home till Fall. I wait till Mills get settled I think they will have a good climate at Kearney if they go there, and you must be either here or with them.

Remember, dear Mother you are getting older each year - less and less able to do for yourself, and you must be where some one of your children can look after you.

The choice is between Wooster and Kearney and you will have to choose. I can only say for myself I am more than willing to do all I can - but I can do so little for any one. Janet will be home after this year, most likely, so I will have her to do for me. The climate here, you know this would be more central for Calvin & India, but you want to settle somewhere that you can stay, not just to visit them. I keep hoping we may get away from Wooster before a great while just on account of the climate. I am sure I would feel better in a clear, dry, bracing atmosphere. Lizzie and I are going to send Janet a thanksgiving box. Give my love to all the friends and write as often as you can - if only a postal. All send love - specially Willie - Lovingly

Jennie

Sallie sends love and says tell you she and your